

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 22, 1999 LB 835

certainly is. But I would suggest it is much greater in Washington, where it's easier for lawmakers to hide. Extending the date in which the state of Nebraska implements price reporting provisions will not curtail any pressure applied by lobbyists in Washington. Extending the date will not ensure the passage of anything. Last year, both meat labeling and price reporting were included in federal legislation and somehow magically had gotten knocked out. The second thing about it is supporters of the price reporting policies at the federal level have other concerns over agricultural policy which are addressed year after year. Matters of federal legislation typically center around the creation of a farm bill and includes discussions on price supports, soil conservation programs, risk protection programs, acreage reductions, international trade, and many other, many other things. I agree that price reporting would be less...be best handled at the federal level, but I don't believe it will be adequately addressed when there...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR DIERKS: ...are so many other issues that seem to be calling for their attention. I simply don't believe an adequate federal remedy is forthcoming and I'm not willing to allow Nebraska producers to struggle along without some hope for a better future. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Coordsen, on the Brashear amendment to LB 835.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I have not spoken on this issue, although it is my profession. It's been in good hands throughout the course of its life here in the Legislature and the Agriculture Committee and on the floor, in the control of Senator Dierks. And when the introducer of this amendment was speaking, I was reminded of what my father told me some more than 40 years ago when I did something which was ahead of the game for the technology of the times in our community. It wasn't a new thing, but it was a new thing in our community. And that particular effort soon became what every...how everyone did that particular task in hog raising. I have to stand this morning and tell you that I have no fear of Nebraska being ahead of the game. Somebody must,